

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management/Division of Agriculture Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS)



GOLD SPOTTED OAK BORER

Agrilus auroguttatus

The goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) is a buprestid beetle native to oak forests of Southeastern Arizona. Since 2002, GSOB has contributed to the mortality of more than 80,000 trees over approximately 4,900 km², and this infested area continues to increase as the GSOB population grows and spreads. This is just one of many forest pests that are moved to un-infested forests by humans moving firewood.



Mike Lewis, Center for Invasive Species Research

GSOB eggs are about 1 mm in width and are oval

shaped with a flat bottom. Mature larvae are about 18

Identifying Features:



Mark S. Hoddle, University of California - Riverside

Damage:

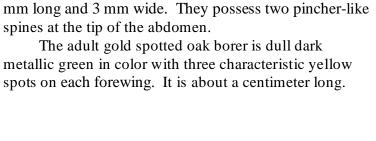
Feeding larvae kill patches of cambium, which eventually causes tree death.

When adult development is complete, the adults chew an emergence hole through the bark and exit the tree. GSOB seems to prefer **red oaks**, although it will occasionally feed on **intermediate oaks**, and **almost never on white oaks**.



Goldspotted Oak Borer. 02 March 2011. http://www.forestryimages.org

Goldspotted Oak Borer, 02 March 2011. http://www.forestryimages.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=5432267





Tom Coleman, USDA Forest Service